



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV

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While not required of meeting participants, signing-in constitutes public notice of attendance. Presence at meetings is recorded solely based on sign-in sheets, and not signing-in constitutes absence for Commission members. Only members of the Commission on HIV are accorded voting privileges, thus Commissioners who have not signed in cannot vote. Sign-in sheets are available upon request.

COMMISSION ON HIV MEETING MINUTES November 13, 2014

Approved
3/12/2015

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT	COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT (cont.)	COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT	DHSP STAFF
Ricky Rosales, Co-Chair	José Munoz	Michael Johnson, Esq., Co-Chair	Kanaisa Ciruy
Alvaro Ballesteros, MBA	Mario Pérez, MPH	Alex Castillo	Maggie Esquivel
Joseph Cadden, MD	Gregory Rios	Lilia Espinoza, PhD	Sonali Kulkarni, MD
Raquel Cataldo	Juan Rivera	Suzette Flynn	Carla M.
Kevin Donnelly	Shoshanna Scholar	Lynnea Garbutt	Alicia Moody
Michelle Enfield	LaShonda Spencer, MD	David Giugni, LCSW	Sophia Rumanes, MPH
Dahlia Ferlito, MPH (pending)	Jason Tran/Rob Lester, MPP	Grissel Granados, MSW/Maria Roman	Carlos Vega-Matos, MPA
Aaron Fox, MPM	Monique Tula	Sharon Holloway/Ismael Morales	Paulina Zamudio
Terry Goddard, MA	Will Watts, JD	Mitchell Kushner, MPH, MD	
Joseph Green/Eric Sanjurjo, MPH	Terrell Winder	Patsy Lawson	
Kimler Gutierrez (pending)	Fariba Younai, DDS	Miguel Martinez, MSW, MPH	COMMISSION STAFF/CONSULTANTS
Ayanna Kiburi, MPH (by phone)		Angélica Palmeros, MSW	
AJ King, MPH		Jill Rotenberg	Dawn McClendon
Lee Kochems, MA		Sabel Samone-Loreca/ Susan Forrest	Jane Nachazel
Bradley Land			Yeghishe Nazinyan, MS, MD
Ted Liso/Douglas Lantis, MBA		Terry Smith, MPA/Gambit Geniess	James Stewart
Abad Lopez		Richard Zaldivar	Craig Vincent-Jones, MHA
Marc McMillin			Nicole Werner
PUBLIC			
Tasia Anderson	Robert Aguayo	René Bennett	Traci Bivens-Davis
Bernard Branson, MD	Jesse Campos	Efren Chaca	Keina Colem
Phil Curtis	Kurt Czbrerz-Miller	Katya Delciriva	Niki Dhillon (by phone)
Tom Donohoe, MBA	Leslie Fria	Jerry Gates, PhD	Uyen Kao
Lori Laubacher	Gabriela Lei	Eric Paul Leue	Shanna Livermore, MPH
Leonard More	Glenford Morris	Sasha Ovararro	William Paja
Michael Pitkin	Craig Pulsipher	Yaniva Reyes-Lopez	Martha Ron
Kevin Salter	Natalie Sanchez	Walt Senterfitt	Brigitte Tweddell
Jason Wise	Lorena Vizarra		

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1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Rosales opened the meeting at 9:35 am.
 - A. **Roll Call (Present):** Ballesteros, Cataldo, Donnelly, Enfield, Ferlito, Fox, Goddard, Green/Sanjurjo, Gutierrez, Kiburi, King, Land, Lester, Liso/Lantis, Lopez, McMillin, Munoz, Rios, Rivera, Rosales, Spencer, Tula, Watts, Younai
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**
 - MOTION 1:** Adjust, as necessary, and approve the Agenda Order (*Passed by Consensus*).
3. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**
 - MOTION 2:** Approve minutes from the 8/14/2014 and 9/18/2014 Commission on HIV meetings, as presented (*Passed by Consensus*).
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Agendized or Follow-Up):**
 - Mr. Pitkin commented several people had told him a key consideration for them in applying to the Commission was whether or not the application process was simplified. He challenged everyone to familiarize themselves with the Office of National AIDS Policy, the National HIV/AIDS Strategy and the Ryan White CARE Act of 1990 itself. The Commission's work is not about individual interests or programs, but responding to this very challenging law effectively. It is not simple work.
 - He also urged the Commission to join the national debate on the undocumented because the HIV population is impacted.
5. **COMMISSION COMMENT (Non-Agendized or Follow-Up):**
 - Ms. Enfield reported the City of Los Angeles AIDS Coordinator's Office will host a World AIDS Day event to release early findings of a transgender-inclusive business practices study and present a panel discussion on economic empowerment.
 - The Testing and Linkage to Care Plus Treatment Work Group will meet 11/21/2014 at Historic General Hospital, 9:00 to 11:00 am. The meeting is specifically targeted to those responsible for linking PLWH into care.
 - Mr. Land suggested acknowledging the work of Commission members who are not renewing. He added the new representative proposed by the City of Pasadena will be John Palomo who was a prior Commission member.
 - ➡ Mr. Land will coordinate review of acknowledgement for those Commission members who are not renewing.
6. **HIV COMMUNITY COLLOQUIA SERIES: HIV AND HCV: IS ERADICATION WITHIN REACH?**
 - Dr. Bernard Branson, Former Associate Director, Laboratory Diagnostics, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention, CDC, presented a colloquium on HIV and HCV: Is Eradication Within Reach? It emphasized adoption of the most current tests to ensure rapid initiation of biomedical interventions for treatment or prevention. Colloquia are co-sponsored by the Commission and the UCLA Center for HIV Identification, Prevention and Treatment Services (CHIPTS). Videos are posted on the CHIPTS website.
 - ➡ Dr. Branson will forward his slides to Commission staff for distribution.
8. **CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF AIDS (OA) REPORT:**
 - A. **California Planning Group (CPG):**
 - Mr. Rivera reported on the second in-person CPG meeting, 10/1/2014, in San Diego. CPG elected Co-Chairs, Jenna Adams, Fresno County Department of Public Health, and Francisco Cavas, Los Angeles LGBT Center. The body heard a presentation on group decision-making process. Slides will be available on the CPG page of the OA website.
 - Ms. Kiburi added meeting notes and slides from the first meeting, 6/25-26/2014, are also available on the CPG page of the OA website. Contact Liz Hall for more information or questions about the CPG.
 - B. **OA Work/Information:**
 - Ms. Kiburi, Chief, HIV Care Branch reported Dr. Karen Mark, Chief, OA; Brian Lew, Chief, HIV Prevention Branch; and staff attended the 9/23/2014 Summit on Sexual Health for Gay, Bisexual and Other MSMs in San Francisco. The US Department of Health and Human Services sponsored the Summit with HIV/AIDS Regional Resource Network Regions 9 and 10, Alameda County and San Francisco City and County departments of health. State and local officials, community leaders, clinicians and AIDS Service Organizations participated. It was one of a series of such Summits in western states.
 - Several OA staff presented at the 2014 United States Conference on AIDS (USCA) on: Range of Integrated HIV Planning Activities (panel); High-Impact Prevention, Risk Reduction Activities, Best Practices, Outcomes and Replicability (panel); High Impact California (panel with Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum); and Rolling with Resistance: How to Speak for Syringe Access Programs so People Will Listen (roundtable). Slides should be on the USCA website.

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- The 2014-2015 HIV Care Providers (HCP) and Minority AIDS Initiative allocations were finalized in September and are posted on the OA website. Funding was unchanged from the prior year. Management Memorandum 1403, 9/26/2014, clarifies new progress report contractor submission requirements. Reports will be semi-annual, not quarterly. A new template being finalized changes the focus and several questions. An extension will provide contractors time to adjust.
- OA is finalizing the 2015 Ryan White Part B Funding Opportunity Application for submission to HRSA by 9/24/2014.
- Management Memorandum 1402, 9/24/2014, clarifies OA expectations on use of Ryan White funds for services partially covered by Medi-Cal, Denti-Cal, private insurance or other eligible benefits. A 9/30/2014 teleconference provided an opportunity for questions and answers on the notice.
- HCP program advisors are in the process of conducting the annual monitoring site visits for Part B contractors.
- Governor Brown signed AB 1743 on 9/15/2014. It removes pharmacy practice restrictions to make sterile syringes more accessible. The bill removes all limits on the number of syringes pharmacies can sell without a prescription and, for the first time, allows adults to possess unlimited syringes for personal use. The bill goes into effect 1/1/2015.
- Recent research found many California pharmacists unaware of current law that allows pharmacists and physicians to provide syringes without a prescription, but counted local health departments among the best information sources.
- OA supported AB 1743 and is working with researchers to examine pharmacies' low non-prescription syringe sales rate in the Central Valley. It is developing a webinar series with the University of California San Francisco and the Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center on the role pharmacists can play in HIV and HCV prevention with the first webinar on 1/14/2015. OA is also developing new materials for pharmacists and customers that local health departments can customize, post to their websites and distribute to pharmacists. Local planning councils, especially in more rural areas, can enlist pharmacies in their efforts. Contact Alisandra Ross, OA Infection Drug Use Specialist, for more information.
- On 11/14/2014, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Center for Infectious Disease and OA will co-host a meeting with the California HIV/AIDS Research Program and other community organizations to strategize support for health care providers and their patients in utilizing PrEP. Researchers, health department staff, providers, advocates and consumers will address PrEP demonstration projects, service delivery best practices and how to meet challenges.
- The HIV Prevention Branch is developing strategies to encourage Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs) to focus targeted testing resources on moderate- to high-risk individuals and redirect low-risk testers to medical settings. Matt Willis, Targeted Testing Specialist, and Jenny Olsen, Medical Setting Specialist, are working with specified LHJs to develop coordinated transitions from targeted HIV testing sites to medical settings for low-risk individuals.
- Prevention is working with LHJs to identify resources and opportunities among targeted testing sites, Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and community medical centers to strengthen cooperative efforts for testing, Linkage to Care (LTC) and partner services. Staff launched a Sacramento pilot with a focus group including the Sacramento LHJ AIDS Director, test counselors and CBO LTC and partner service coordinators to introduce the concept and assess capacity.
- The next phase will launch in Fall 2014. It will include a focus group and needs assessment of Federally Qualified Health Centers and CBOs in the Sacramento area pertaining to opt-out testing capacity and collaborative opportunities.
- The CDC published a 2014 state prevention progress report to inform national and local efforts in meeting 2015 National HIV/AIDS Strategy outcome measures and alignment with the Healthy People 2020 Initiative and the CDC Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention Strategic Plan. The report is based on six priority indicators - three for all 50 states and the District of Columbia plus three more for the 18 states and District of Columbia with complete CD4 and Viral Load (VL) surveillance data. California was recognized for success especially for retention in care and viral suppression.
- Ms. Dhillon, Chief, ADAP Branch reported ADAP updated the ADAP formulary with added medications on 9/22/2014.
- OA conducted required training in late October and early November on changes to the ADAP application including incorporation of the OA-HIPP application and variables required by HRSA for its ADAP data report. The ADAP Pharmacy Benefit System was revised so ADAP Enrollment Workers may add, store and view scanned client eligibility documents.
- ADAP sent two letters to clients in November. One to ADAP-only clients reviews 2015 Covered California options and subsequent option to enroll in OA-HIPP as well as information on penalties for lacking health care coverage. The other to OA-HIPP clients enrolled in Covered California health plans reviewed the renewal process and its alignment with the OA-HIPP process. A Management Memorandum to ADAP Enrollment Workers will update them on the letters.
- Management Memorandum 2014-12, 10/24/2015, to ADAP Enrollment Workers updated VL and CD4 testing requirements due to clinical standard changes that reduce recommended testing frequency for some clients. VL and CD4 tests meet ADAP eligibility requirements if dated within one year, not six months, of application/re-enrollment.
- The ADAP Emergency Relief grant application for the maximum \$11 million was submitted to HRSA on 10/21/2014.
- Mr. Salter requested an update on the extensive call six weeks prior on improvement to the OA-HIPP application process including direct payments to insurers by person rather than batch checks. Ms. Dhillon reported changing the

payment process requires a contract amendment which is being developed. It will not be executed in time for the 11/15/2014 open enrollment start date. The implementation goal is early 2015.

- Also addressed on the call was development of an OA-HIPP client handout. An ADAP Enrollment Worker Work Group was to review a draft later that day. It will be distributed to ADAP Enrollment Workers for their clients once approved.
- Mr. Fox said he and Mr. Pulsipher attended an 11/12/2014 meeting of the Los Angeles LGBT Center, AIDS Project Los Angeles, Project Inform and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation with Dr. Ron Chapman, Director, CDPH which includes OA. Dr. Chapman could not attend, but sent his deputy Kathleen Billingsley. Mr. Fox confirmed issues have been elevated to a higher level within CDPH and a commitment was made to schedule a call with Dr. Chapman.
- Mr. Pulsipher said the OA-HIPP application deadline is 12/1/2014. The January premium will be reimbursed.
- ➡ Mr. Vincent-Jones reported transcription of the OA-HIPP issues raised at the prior Commission meeting will be completed by early the next week. Mr. Pérez committed to follow-up once the transcription was available.

9. DIVISION OF HIV/STD PROGRAMS (DHSP) REPORT:

A. Administrative Agency:

- Mr. Pérez was at the Health Deputy's meeting that morning to support the Department of Public Health's presentation on the needle exchange Board Letter to continue six needle exchange contracts starting January 2015.
- The Commission recommendation to augment investments in several service categories is moving through the County review process. The Board Letter will most likely be heard by the Board in December.
- DHSP has presented a Board Letter to the Health Deputies that would continue the KCBS contract for six months. The CDC requires support for social marketing and condom availability programs. KCBS distributes millions of condoms annually. The six month extension would allow DHSP time to release a Master Service Agreement solicitation.

B. HIV/STD Services:

- Mr. Pérez felt the 11/14/2014 PrEP strategy meeting noted under the OA Report would be important. A strong feeling statewide has coalesced to move past planning to implementation. He expected discussion of such strategies.
- He presented at a National Coalition of STD Directors plenary on Los Angeles County's new response to STD control. Other presenters were STD Directors from Michigan, Tennessee and Vermont along with the CDC representative who reviewed all applications for STD control nationwide. The County's framework was progressive compared to other approaches across the country and was congratulated by Gil Bolin, Director, STD Prevention, CDC.

C. Research/Surveillance: There was no report.

10. **PARLIAMENTARY TRAINING:** This item was postponed.

11. **CO-CHAIRS' REPORT:** This item was postponed.

12. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Mr. Vincent-Jones introduced Dr. Nazinyan, the Commission's new epidemiologist, who started the prior month. He works with both the Commission and DHSP's HIV Epidemiology Unit. His current focus is the Los Angeles Coordinated HIV Needs Assessment (LACHNA). In future, he will work on other needs assessment and evaluation activities.
- Mr. Vincent-Jones said he had come to understand that a truly good friend will tell you, and ensure you hear, what is hard. The past month was difficult. He lost track of activities as well as caring properly for his health. He will start an indefinite medical leave 11/17/2014 and is arranging with staff and Co-Chairs to leave work in the best possible condition.

A. **FY 2014-2015 Commission Operating Budget:** The draft budget was in the packet. The Executive Committee approved it contingent on resolution of any DHSP questions. The narrative explaining each item will be provided at the next meeting.

13. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Planning, Priorities and Allocations (PP&A) Committee:

- 1) **LACHNA 2015 Format/Design:** Mr. Land reported LACHNA has been deployed. The goal is to develop data by October 2015 in order to provide input for the Priority-and Allocation-Setting Process in 2016.
MOTION 3: Approve the plan and format for conducting the 2015 Los Angeles Countywide HIV Needs Assessment (LACHNA), as presented (*Postponed*).
- 2) **Unmet Need Technical Assistance (TA):**

- Mr. Land reported HRSA Project Officer Karen Ingvaldstad requested TA to help improve the County's unmet need response. Emily Gantz McKay, EGM Consulting, was contracted to work with PP&A on a plan. A PP&A Work Group was also evaluating needs assessment and offered input especially on correlations to housing and other disparities.
- Strength findings included active participation, which occurred; hire of an epidemiologist, now completed; and the two DHSP demonstration projects to reach PLWH out of care and link them to HIV care.
- Key recommendations included avoiding confusion by using HRSA/HAB "unmet need" terminology, i.e., the unmet need of PLWH who know they are HIV+ but are not receiving HIV-related primary medical care. HRSA's operational definition of unmet need is no VL, CD4 count or prescription for antiretroviral medications for at least 12 months.
- A multi-phase needs assessment process was recommended. Dr. Amy Wohl described such a process for LACHNA.
- Other recommendations included focus groups, data from at least 200 out of care PLWH and interviewers and at least one facilitator who look like the PLWH population from whom they are obtaining information.

B. Operations Committee:

- 1) 2014 Member Renewal/Nomination Timeline:** Mr. Green reported 23 new or renewal applications have been received. Four days of interviews were scheduled for the next week.

C. Public Policy Committee: This item was postponed.

D. Standards and Best Practices (SBP) Committee: This item was postponed.

14. TASK FORCE REPORTS: This item was postponed.

15. CAUCUS REPORTS:

- A. Transgender Caucus:** Ms. Enfield reported the Caucus continues to plan its one-day conference. it will most likely be in early February pending speaker confirmation.
- B. Consumer Caucus:**
- Mr. Liso reported the Caucus would meet after the Commission. Topics will include addressing OA-HIPP issues.
 - He added he had been a Commission member for 10 years. As a consumer, he thanked Mr. Vincent-Jones for all his work on the Commission's behalf over the years and offered his support. The body applauded Mr. Vincent-Jones.
- C. Youth Caucus:** The Caucus was developing a training on best practices with youth.
- D. Latino Caucus:** This item was postponed.

16. HOPWA REPORT: This item was postponed.

17. CITY/HEALTH DISTRICT REPORTS: This item was postponed.

18. SPA/DISTRICT REPORTS: This item was postponed.

19. AIDS EDUCATION/TRAINING CENTERS (AETCs): This item was postponed.

20. COMMISSION COMMENT: There were no comments.

21. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Ms. Enfield announced the Red Circle Project will hold its 5th Annual Spirit of Community Awards on 12/19/2014 at the West Hollywood Park Auditorium, 657 South San Vicente Boulevard. The event will showcase role model stories created through the Community Promise intervention over the last several years.
- Mr. Goddard announced a memorial for homeless who have died on the streets at All Saints Church, 12/9/2014, 6:00 pm.

22. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned in memory of Delma Simonson, Mr. Johnson's grandmother, at 12:00 noon.

- A. Roll Call (Present):** Ballesteros, Cadden, Cataldo, Donnelly, Enfield, Ferlito, Fox, Goddard, Green/Sanjurjo, Gutierrez, King, Kochems, Land, Liso/Lantis, Lopez, McMillin, Munoz, Rios, Rivera, Rosales, Scholar, Spencer, Tran, Tula, Watts, Winder, Younai

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MOTION AND VOTING SUMMARY		
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